



St. Gabriel School Council

585 Signal Road, Fort McMurray, AB, T9H 4V3

EMAIL: stgabrielsc@gmail.com

Minutes – May 21, 2019

4:00pm CTS Meeting Room

This meeting was called to order at 4:04pm with an opening prayer done by everyone.

In attendance:

Sarah Dube, Abbie Ouellet, Jennifer Lacey, Karen Arevalo, Geraldine Connors

No amendments were made to the April 21, 2019 minutes.

Principal Report:

The lights above the School name sign are up. As well, there will be a Leader in Me banner being placed outside the front of the school.

PAT exams have started and the first round was really good.

Mrs. Green is retiring this year, so a celebration is being planned.

The buddy bench has been installed and information of how to use it will be given to all teachers to share with students. The PALS group will also be organizing outdoor activities during recess.

The structure of classes for next year will most likely include split classes in order to keep class sizes smaller. The average will be 19-20 students per class with the highest around 25 students. Placement of students in split classes is evaluated based on the students learning, ability to work in groups, independence, and age. The use of programs such as balance literacy in the class divisions allows students to be group based on student's level and need rather than school grade.

Lost and found items have been washed and will be on display in the meeting room for the next week. Students will all come to pick up what is theirs and the remaining items will be donated.

Treasurer Report:

Summary of Account Balance Forward	\$11,385.24
Recent Deposits (Growing Smiles, Smoothie Day)	8,864.30
Recent Expenses (Apples, Child Care, Council Appreciation, Office-website, Parent Recruitment, Eco Rewards, Hot Lunch, Smoothie Day)	3,086.11
Total Available on May 21, 2019	\$17,163.10

The total available did not balance against the report and further inquiry is required.



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Old Business:

Crosswalk

After inviting the Trustees and RMWB Councilors to this meeting, Marc Fortais, Director of Public Works for the RMWB got in touch with Sarah. The crosswalk in front of the school will be installed in the next few months and include flashing LED lights in the corners of the crosswalk signs. The crosswalk will impact parking as there is a minimum 10 meters requirement on either side of the crosswalk. Suggestion was made to block the opening in the fence on Signal Road and put one in line with the crosswalk going across to Westview School. Mrs. Lacey will get in touch with the Municipality, Parks and Recreation Department, about the fence opening.

Election of Vice Chair/ Selection of Coordinators

At this time no one came forward for Vice Chair, Special Event Coordinator or Secretary.

Volunteer Update and Parking Spot Draw

There were 30 volunteers since April 23 for school council activities. Volunteers are needed for the Recycling Fridays (June 14, June 27), Monday Muffins (May 27, June 10, June 17), Extra Hot Lunch (May 27, June 10), Popcorn Day (May 30), and Sports Day Snacks (June 24 or 25). Congratulations to Fatmina Khatoon for being drawn for the School Council parking spot in the staff parking lot from May 21 to June 27.

Bulletin Board

Final bulletin board for the year will be to promote the Sports Day Snacks and School Start School Supplies.

PAT Snacks

Even though PATs have started, last month we didn't have quorum to pass a motion but based on discussion we were still in favour to financial support this program. Sarah motioned that \$200 be spent on water, granola bars, and fruit for PAT Snacks. Geradline seconded and all agreed.

Sports Day Snacks

Last month we didn't have quorum to pass a motion but base on discussion we were still in favour to do this program. Sarah motioned that \$500 be spent on freezies, watermelon, and water for Sports Day Snacks. Abbie seconded and all agreed.

Spring Fun Afternoon

There was 50% less student participation from previous years and about 10 students who signed up the day of. Some parents thought it was being done during the school day in the afternoon or didn't know they had to sign up their child. The group felt that it was communicated clearly through several mediums and times that sign up was required and it was an after school activity. Some students completed the crafts quickly and needed to be diverted so as not to run around the gym. It was suggested that additional



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activities be planned such as tic tac toe. There were many parents who stayed with their child making less volunteers needed.

New Business

ASCA Survey

ASCA's June Survey was request for input on school planning and decision-making involvement. On what topics, and how, does your school administration seek input from parents and the school council in making decisions? Our principal has gotten input from parents on the District Calendar, School goals, Hot Lunch Vendors, and School Mission Statement. It has mostly been from parents at school council meetings with the exception of the school mission statement which was by email to parents to answer a survey. Feedback on the School Mission Statement is still being collected so Sarah will post the link to the mission statement survey on Facebook for parents to respond to.

Year End Report

Sarah has started the year end report and congratulated everyone involved in all the activities that school council has done the past year. Looking back on the year, there were a lot of great achievements as we did something every month.

Welcome Back to School/ Meet the Teacher Night

The group discussed having the Welcome Back to School event on the first day of classes and decided that this day is too busy for parents. Rather we will have a table set up for meet the teacher night and do an introduction in the gym on that night. Parents agreed that the new format of Meet the Teacher Night, meet in the gym for quick introductions and then break out into the classes for an overview of the grade, should continue for next year.

Coordinators

Coordinator positions worked well this past year so we will continue with coordinators for next year. In the event a coordinator isn't found then the suggestion was made to breakdown tasks into a visual display of postcards hung on a string line so that individuals who have less time could sign up for those tasks.

AGM September Date

Next years AGM will be Tuesday, September 17th at 4pm. At that time meeting dates and times will be discussed for the remainder of the school year.

Office Fruit for September

Sarah motioned that \$200 be spent on fruit for the office during the month of September. Karen seconded and all agreed.

Alien In Line Skating 2019-20

The students, teachers, and parents highly enjoyed the Alien In-Line skating and would like to do it again for the 2019-20 school year. It was suggested that it be organized earlier in the school year when there are



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a lot of indoor recesses. Sarah will look at booking for February 2020. Other dates to be aware of is the Family Day weekend and Convention week during the last week of February.

Fundraising:

Extra Hot Lunch

The extra hot lunch on May 27th received 69 orders and the June 10th received 72 orders.

Spring Flowers

Delivery is Thursday May 23rd and Parent Pick Up is Friday May 24th. Had to order an extra 11 12" plants (4 hanging baskets, 4 patio planters, 3 strawberry plants) because of shipping requirements of 12" plants being in multiples of 12. If extra plants don't sell on Friday the group agreed to sell them at cost. Profit will be between \$978.40-\$1293.40 depending on how many extras are sold.

Special Event Day

The next special event day, Popcorn Day, will be Thursday, May 30.

School Supplies

Contract has been signed with School Start and the supplies lists have been signed off on. Waiting on more information from School Start. Information to parents will be sent home in June.

Walk-a-thon

The walk-a-thon is a great fundraiser and went well in September. It was agreed to do it again but in October so as not to conflict with the Terry Fox Run. If the weather does not permit it to be outdoors, then we will do it in the hallway/ gym. Tentative date is Wednesday, October 16th. At this time there is no Coordinator for the Walk-a-thon.

Dielmann Fall Fundraiser

Upon reviewing the catalog for the Dielmann fall fundraiser, the group decided to do this fundraiser. By signing up before June 15th we will receive the 40% profit plus 3% signing bonus. Information to go home to parents after the walk-a-thon. Deadline for orders will be Oct 29th and delivery will be the week of December 2nd.

Closing Comments:

Thank you to everyone for coming out tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.

Next Meeting date and time: AGM Tuesday, September 17st, 2019 – 4:00-5:30pm. All parents welcome!